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type reductions of the drawings made by the assistant geologists. Page plates of fossils accompany the chapters of the several formations. These are half-sized reproductions of the figures of fossils given in Report P. 4, Dictionary of the Fossils of Pennsylvania and the surrounding States, published in 1889-1890.

The present report has been evidently written with an eye to the general rather than the scientific public. As a popular synopsis of the geology of Pennsylvania, it will have much utility. As a discussion of the more abstruse problems presented by the structure of the formations of the State, especially of the eastern region, it has less value.

The Earth's History,² by R. D. Roberts, is an attempt "to furnish a sketch of the methods and chief results of geological enquiry, such as a reader interested in the subject for its own sake would desire to obtain. It is not intended to be a text-book of Geology." Beginning with a brief history of geological thought, it takes up the earth-history and shows how geologists are enabled to trace the successive steps in the development of the earth's physiography, by reference to the records of the rocks as interpreted by means of the results of investigations into the processes at present active on and beneath its surface.

The central idea of the author is "to reconstruct, from ancient fragmentary remains, the old conditions that characterized the successive stages in the evolution of the land areas; to make out the life-history of the earth," and this idea has determined the method of treatment of the subject matter. The book is not crowded with geological facts, it is not a dry abridgment of some popular manual of geology, but it is exactly what its author intended it should be—an exposition of geological logic. Its style is simple and clear, its statements are accurate, and its various parts are well proportioned. In short, it is an excellent volume for collateral reading for college classes in geology, and a fine introduction to the geological methods for general students.—W. T. B.

Wright's Light,³ although mainly a discussion of light phenomena that may be projected upon the screen by means of a lantern with the lime light, is nevertheless, an excellent volume for study by

² *The Earth's History, an Introduction to Modern Geology*, by R. D. Roberts, University Extension Manual. New York: Scribner's Sons, 1893, pp. 270, Pl. ix. Price, \$1.50.

³ *Light, a course of Experimental Optics, chiefly with the Lantern*. By Lewis Wright; 2d Ed. Macmillan & Co., pp. 391, Pl. 9, Figs. 207. Price, \$3.25.